

# Alexandria Gazette

"Fait ce qu'il faut, arrive ce qu'il pourra"

VOL. XXXII

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## ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

From the Baltimore Patriot.

### THE PEAKS OF OTTER, IN VIRGINIA.

In an excursion of health, some time since, we took horses at Lynchburg, and rode to the Natural Bridge along the pass of the James River through the Blue Ridge. This pass is not much known to travellers from other states; it is, however, one of the most magnificent mountain defiles in our country. Seven miles from the Natural Bridge, on our road to the Peaks of Otter, the last point of curiosity in our excursion, we crossed the principal branch of James River, and soon struck again into the Blue Ridge, the clambering of which occupied the greater part of our forenoon. At the point where the road enters the mountain, Jennings' Creek, a bold, lively mountain torrent, with a great volume of water, flows into the James, through a deep, wild quadrilateral glen, whose woody recesses and towering cliffs were enlivened with a busy saw-mill, almost the last note of human industry we saw that morning. The torrent and our road ran through the same glen, though in opposite directions; and this fresh mountain stream, the most beautiful I ever remember to have seen, we traced nearly to the top of the mountain, a distance perhaps of nine or ten miles, and crossed, I think, twenty-six times. The former road crossed it thirty-three times; but we avoided some of the fords by a deflection up the mountain. I should rather say we missed them; for in a warm summer morning, in an upward ascent, such a clear and lively current, here and there catching the sun, but generally embowered in vast trees or in the tangled profusion of the mountain thicket, and winding, leaping and foaming in numberless cascades, is one of the most grateful pictures of coolness and beauty in nature. The mere sound of waters is refreshing amidst the silent, quivering heat of noontide. Though we pursued this fine torrent through a thousand or fifteen hundred feet of ascent, it yet retained a very considerable volume of water when we crossed it for the last time. Occasionally found it a resting place in some deep pool. That to the fringed bank with *Kalmia* crown'd, Her crystal mirror held.

As we threaded this labyrinth of woods and waters, the ascent grew more steep and the forest more lofty. When near the plateau of the mountain from which the Peaks spring, we were particularly struck by the size of the trees; and as we passed some half-mouldered trunks, "extended long and large" in their deep beds of decayed leaves, we began to amuse ourselves with computing in what year of our era some of them might have been acorns. The vulgar notion allows a century for the growth, maturity and decay of an oak respectively; but this computation, which took us back only the insignificant distance of the discovery of America, by no means satisfied us. A plane-tree was long shown in the side of Cos, thought to be a thousand years old; and it is not long since the remains of the oak near which, if tradition is to be trusted, William Rufus was killed by Tyrrel's arrow, were still shown in the New Forest. On the whole, we chose to think it quite probable that some of these mouldering trunks might have been springing from the acorn about the signing of Magna Charta, or, for aught we knew, at the dissolution of the Hierarchy. In these hoary solitudes of Nature I was strongly reminded of the remark of the younger Michaux on the American forest. "The profound silence," says he, "which reigns in these woods, the absence of every dangerous animal, and the security enjoyed in them, form an aggregate which is seldom met with in other countries." I may remark here, that the rattlesnake is now seldom found in the Blue Ridge. The popular opinion of the neighbourhood ascribes its disappearance to the range of smoke through the portions of the mountain still wooded; but as the "copper-head," a reptile not quite so famous, but equally formidable, still maintains its ground against the hog in his bristly armour, not only in these mountains, but in lonely places near our cities, where the rattlesnake is never seen, we may more probably ascribe the migration of the latter to its habits and instinct.

Noon was past when on the plateau of the mountain we took our prandial repast, seated on a fallen tree, near one of the potable streamlets that issue copiously, like veins of silver, from the earth. At a house a little farther on, our steeds had the same good fortune, and here we rather unnecessarily engaged the services of a guide to show us the path to one of the summits which rose steep above us, and which we were to clamber on foot. The Peaks of Otter are two remarkable points which tower very considerably above the general elevation of the Blue Ridge. The more northern summit is the loftiest and most massive; but visitors usually ascend only the southern one, which I presume is more accessible. The latter rises also more conically from the mountain that forms its base, and probably affords, from its detached position, a more unimpeded prospect of the vast panorama of plain, forest and mountain at its feet. At the foot of this peak we saw abundance of the *rhododendrum maximum*, here called the laurel, a splendid flowering shrub, rare and much valued with us. Our ascent cost us an hour and some minutes of hard climbing, interrupted by many pauses absolutely necessary to rest and take breath, for the path is in some places so steep as to make the hands nearly as necessary as the feet. We must have sat down at least a dozen times, while our guide jogged on without difficulty. I suppose even the

nearest resemblance to ours that day, becomes from habit quite easy and agreeable.

The extreme summit of the peak is composed of some huge fragments of bare rock, piled on each other, and looking as if they had been transported thither to give the spectator a more commanding out-look. Before we reached the base of these rocks, the forest growth had dwindled into dwarfish trees; but exactly at their feet we met again with very beautiful shrubs of the rhododendrum, six or eight feet high, and just beginning to flower,—the blossoms of a rose color, mixed with darker red, inclining to purple. The beautiful flowers of this shrub, are hardly more beautiful than its leaves, of glossy dark green on the upper side, but lighter beneath, and which radiate in stars from the stem. On the same spot we found a splendid plant of the *Azalea* or *Upright Honey-Suckle*, taller than our heads, loaded with the most perfect flowers, of a delicate red, and an exquisite odor, perceptible for many yards round. The wild raspberry was abundant on the same spot.

A thin, cold wind swept round the summit of this aerial citadel. Heated as we were by the clambering of the last hour, it chilled us to the heart, and made a few mouthfuls of raw brandy by no means unpleasing even to my temperate palate. The Peaks of Otter are said by Mr. Jefferson to be the highest ground in Virginia, who computed their elevation at four thousand feet above the sea. I find this estimate reduced several hundred feet by other writers, whether from measurement or not I do not recollect. We must have commenced our ascent of the Ridge at an elevation several hundred feet above tide; we were at least three hours in ascending to the plateau, and an hour more in climbing on foot to the summit of the Peak; and though a fifth of the time may be allowed for taking breath, yet, on the other hand, the path winds but very little. Our descent to the plateau took us half an hour, exclusive of stoppages, and for a good part of the distance we ran, as the least inconvenient mode of descent.

The prospect from this elevated and insulated point is, you may suppose, unbounded in some directions. Towards the west it is somewhat shut in by the range of the Blue Ridge. The rocky apex on which we stood, was formerly a few feet higher than at present, till some idle persons of the neighborhood, by way of frolic, prized the upper portion from its place with levers. This feat, it is said, has robbed the tourist of the prospect of a considerable part of the valley west of the Blue Ridge. A vast panorama remains however, of a diameter of ninety miles, the sinking line of the Blue Ridge being visible for more than a hundred. But though this prospect astonishes the eye by its spaciousness,—and perhaps the imagination still more,—I should perhaps characterize it as more extraordinary than sublime.

The sublimity, at least, is that of space; not of loftiness, for, at this great elevation, other lofty objects seem to dwindle. The round woody summits,—the usual features in the Alleghany range,—swelling interminably one after the other, with their dusky green foliage deepening into blue in the distance, we could scarcely forbear fancying to be an agitated ocean, just after the fury of the storm has subsided. Many mountains that we knew to be of several hundred feet elevation, here hardly seemed to rise out of the plain; the cultivated farms were shrunk into moderate fields. But a great portion of the view was over woodlands, which, traversed by no rivers, which so beautifully open the recesses of our forest, and diversified by no villages spread out in illimitable solitude. Eastward, where we knew the cultivation to be most considerable, the levelness of the country, combined with the predominance of the forests, shut out the cultivated portions from the eye; and though the prospect on this side was boundless, it was monotonous. We felt sensibly the absence of villages from the Virginian landscape. We had but part of the poet's wish embodied:

—Mine be the hut  
That, from the mountain's side,  
Views wide and swelling floods,  
And distant towns, and dim discover'd spires.

Nearer at hand, the landscape had more massiveness and relief; for some rival summits, especially the huge bulk of the northern peak, reared themselves opposite to us in woody grandeur and picturesque combination, inclosing a dell of great depth and vastness. We seemed to stand on the top of a huge dome, of which the rocky pinnacle might be considered as the lantern, while the sides of the peak, seeming to swell outward, somewhat interrupted our near view of the depths out of which we had ascended. The silence was striking; no hum of insect, no audible rustle of the wind in the forest; and with all this wide expanse of objects, the feeling was nevertheless that of desolation and solitariness. Our amphitheatre of forest and mountain was lighted by a fitful sunshine, momentarily obscured by passing clouds.

While we stood sheltered by a corner of the rock from the searching wind, endeavouring to fix in our memories the vast features of a scene which we were never likely to see again, a dark cloud, emerging suddenly, like a phantom, out of the depths of air, threatened to drench us to the skin, and hastened our descent to the house where we had left our horses, and which, with the exception of the little town of Liberty, ten miles off, was the only habitation of man distinctly in view. This little town was to give us our supper and bed; and we wended our way to it, accompanied some miles by a brawling brook, corresponding with that on the other side of the

mountain. A very excellent inn is the principal thing I remember of Liberty.

The Peaks of Otter would make a charming retreat of fashion and health in the summer. The sides of the mountain are rich in the pomp of the American *Sylvia*; Aranjuez does not afford a more delicious combination of shades and waters than nature has formed to the hand along the "prone margin" of Jennings' Creek. (the name of which, by the way, it would be my first step to change to a more euphonous appellation;) springs gush from leafy banks and mossy roots; and the scented azalea, the gay kalmia, and the magnificent rhododendrum glow in an atmosphere fresh, fragrant, and salubrious. A thousand such retreats lie unexplored in the bosom of our mountains, which we must leave to be sought and decorated by the inheritors of our empire half a thousand years hence.

### CORPORATION OF ALEXANDRIA. PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS circumstances have rendered it necessary that the Quarantine Laws of this Corporation should be carried into execution, I do therefore, by and with the advice of the Board of Health, make known the same; and

Order, That all vessels coming from or touching at any ports either in the United States, British Provinces in North America, or any foreign port where the Cholera, or any other contagious disease, is known, or supposed to exist, and bound to Alexandria, be brought to anchor at the Quarantine Ground, and there to remain for the inspection and direction of the Health Officer.

I furthermore enjoin the commanders of all such vessels not to suffer any of their crew or passengers, either before or during the Quarantine Term, to go on shore, or on board any other vessel than that to which they belong, nor permit any person to come on board their vessels, except such as are employed in the execution of the Quarantine Laws, without the especial permission of the Health Officer in writing.

Doctor THOMAS SEMMES, who has been appointed Health Officer, is hereby required to cause the laws upon the subject of Quarantine to be strictly enforced.

Given under my hand this 25th day of June, 1832.

JOHN ROBERTS, Mayor.

### Bacon, Flour, Whiskey, &c.

100,000 LBS. prime Bacon, cured by the subscribers  
130 bbls superfine family Flour, best Shenandoah brands  
100 bbls and 170 bbls Pennsylvania Rye Whiskey  
120 chests, half chests and boxes Gunpowder, Imperial, Hyson, Young Hyson, and Souchong Teas, all of late importations and fine qualities  
2 half pipes superior Port Wine  
6 do pale and brown Sherry  
Jy 14 SAMUEL B. LARMOUR & Co.

### Spring Goods.

CHARLES BENNETT has received and offers for sale, a general assortment of

### GOODS ADAPTED TO THE SEASON.

The following are a part:  
Superfine cloths and kerseymeres of 1st quality  
Merino and Virginia kerseymeres  
Book, cambric, jaconet and mull muslins  
6-4 and 3-4 dimities  
Calicoes and ginghams of first quality  
A general assortment of cotton and silk hosiery  
4-4 and India nankens  
Very best Malton black Italian lustrings  
Bandannas and flag handkerchiefs  
London drillings  
Ripka's best cotton and Rouen kerseymeres, or summer wear  
Checks and stripes, colored cambrics  
Hemming's 1st quality needles, imported direct, and warranted genuine  
Gentlemen's English doekin gloves  
Clark's & Chapp's best sewing cotton, in spools and balls  
4, 4½, and 5 lb pins  
Letter paper of various qualities, from the Brandywine Factory  
Foot-caps and common post paper  
6-4 5-4 Irish, Scotch and Russia sheetings  
A variety of diapers; Irish linens and lawns  
German ticklenburgs and burlops  
Cotton burlops, very stout  
Shoe thread, seine twine, &c. &c. apr 12

### 300 Negroes wanted.

I WISH to purchase them from the age of 13 to 25 years. Persons having such to sell, shall have cash, and the highest prices, by applying to the subscriber, Pratt street, Baltimore, near the intersection of the Rail Road with the Washington City Road. Liberal commissions will be paid to those who will aid in purchasing for the subscriber.  
apr 11 AUSTIN WOODFOLK.

### Lime

1000 CASKS Thomaston Lime, on board the brig Thomas & Edward, for sale by  
W. FOWLE & Co.

### Brown and Bleached Cottons.

4 BALES 3-4, 4-4, and 6-4 brown Cottons  
3 do 3-4 and 7-8 bleached do  
1 do 8-4 Plaids  
Just received and for sale low by  
GEO. WHITE.  
Jy 2

### Gin and Oil.

LANDING from the brig Leda, Captain Gray, from Amsterdam—  
5 pipes superior Gin  
55 barrels Linseed Oil  
For sale by  
W. FOWLE & Co.

### Patent Shot.

120 BAGS, assorted numbers from the Phenix Shot Tower Company of Baltimore, landing from the brig W. Penn, and for sale by  
S. MESSERSMITH.  
June 25

### JOB PRINTING

Neatly and expeditiously executed at this office

### Whiskey.

20 HHDS, Whiskey, in store, for sale by  
J. & W. H. IRWIN.  
Jy 20

### Notice.

The Steamer COLUMBIA, Captain James Mitchell, will, for the ensuing four weeks, (commencing on the 21st July, and ending on the 11th August) leave Baltimore on Saturday, at 4 o'clock P. M. for the District of Columbia; and returning, will leave Georgetown at 5, Washington at 6, and Alexandria at 7 o'clock, A. M. on Wednesday.

### Passage, exclusive of Meals:

From Baltimore to the District, or to the different landings on the Potomac, or from these places to Baltimore:  
To Pyle's Landing, Quantico - - - \$2 00  
Sandy Point, Md., Boyd's Hole, Laidler's Ferry - - - 1 00  
Bluff Point, Moore's Landing, Blackstone's, Piney Point, Sandy Point, Va., Cornfield Point - - - 2 00  
July 17 -18

### Band Box Boards.

2000 LBS. Band Box Boards, just received per schr. Elizabeth & Rebecca, from Boston, and for sale by  
S. MESSERSMITH.  
Jy 18

### Coffee, Candles, &c.

54 BAGS prime Porto Cabello coffee  
40 boxes milled candles  
Landing from schooner Harriett, for sale by  
Jy 18 A. C. CAZENOVE & Co.

### Just Received on sale by

W. M. MORRISON,  
DOMESTIC Manners of the Americans, with numerous engravings, by Mrs. Trollope. Jy 17

### N. E. Rum.

10 HHDS. New England Rum, landing from schr. Elizabeth and Rebecca, for sale by  
W. FOWLE & Co.  
Jy 18

### Wine Bottles.

HUGH C. SMITH, Agent of the New England Glass Bottle Company, has lately received a supply of the best quality Wine Bottles, at factory prices.  
Jy 16

### Soap.

20,000 LBS. Yellow and Brown Soap, our own manufacture, for sale.  
SAML. B. LARMOUR & Co.  
Jy 14

### Clarified Lamp Oil,

JUST received from New Bedford, which will be sold low by  
S. M. & S. H. JANNEY.  
7th mo 13

### Liverpool Salt Alloat.

1800 BUSHELS Coarse Liverpool Salt, on board the schr. Hazard, for sale by  
W. FOWLE & Co.  
Jy 13

### Just Received,

### MORE DESIRABLE SPRING GOODS.

W. H. THOMPSON & Co.

HAVE received, by the schooner Washington, and other arrivals, an additional supply of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods; among which are—  
Super 7 and 4 Irish linens  
Irish and Russia sheetings  
6-4, 8-4, and 10-4 Irish table diapers  
8-4 and 10-4 damask do  
Birds-eye and Russia do  
5-8 and 3-4 lawns and crash  
French and English muslins  
Ginghams and calicoes, a great variety  
Crape and gauze handkerchiefs  
Crape and Hermani shawls  
Linen cambric handkerchiefs, some very fine  
Best black Italian lustrings  
Black Gro de Swiss and Gro de Naples  
English and Russia linens  
Silk Cambrics, Princettes, and Brochelles  
A variety of stripes for boys  
Brown linens, Also,  
Brown and bleached domestics, shirtings, and sheetings  
Checks, tickings  
Penitentiary stripes and plaids  
Burlops, ozunburgs and ticklenburgs  
All of which are offered for sale, by the piece or yard, upon the most favorable terms. apr 25

### Fresh Teas, &c.

WILLIAM FOWLE & Co. have for Sale,  
75 CHESTS Young Hyson Teas, of the Nepon  
25 half do Gunpowder Teas, cargo, imported  
20 do do Imperial Teas, the last month.  
20 hhd St. Croix and N. Orleans Sugars  
25 boxes brown Havana  
75 hhd superior retailing molasses  
25 hhd N. E. rum  
March & Co.'s London Particular, Sicily and Pico Madeira, Leoville and Medoc Claret, Sauterne and Champagne wines  
100 bbls Colli's cotton duck, all numbers  
50 do cotton ravena do  
60 coils Manila cordage  
20 boxes Havana cigars of extra quality  
700 casks nails, assorted sizes  
50 bbls mess and prime beef  
50 do prime pork  
40 do No. 2 Mackerel  
300 do No. 3  
June 7

### Choice Wines.

THE subscribers have for sale an assortment of finest WINES, in boxes of 1 dozen each, viz.  
Champaign, Ormant Mouet brand  
Leadtop Champaign, in pints and quarts  
Chambertin Burgundy  
"Clossman & Co." best Chateau Lafite Claret  
"Winkler," "Oppenheimer," "Oberweiser," and "Hattenheimer," Ozo Hock  
St. Julien, La Nerthe, St. Joseph and Lafitte white and red Claret  
White Hermitage and Sauterne  
Muscat, Lunel, Hermitage, Malvoisin  
Chateau Margaux  
Extract d' Absinthe  
Medoc Claret, in casks  
Madrass, in pipes, hogsheads and quarter casks, old and of the very best quality  
Sicily and Marcellides Madeira  
St. Lucar, Sherry, Port  
Dry and sweet Malaga, &c. &c.  
Jy 25 A. C. CAZENOVE & Co.

### Splendid Furniture.

CHARLES KOONES,  
Cabinet, Chair and Sofa Maker, King, next door to the corner of Alfred street.

HAS on hand, and constantly manufactures a general assortment of

### FASHIONABLE CABINET FURNITURE,

Which, for elegance and durability, defies competition. His stock, generally consists of  
Grecian and plain sofas, couches and lounges  
Mahogany and all kinds of drawing-room chairs  
Grecian, winged and single wardrobes  
Pedestal-endsideboards with marble tops and mirrors  
Gothic and various other ditto  
Pier tables, with marble and mahogany tops  
Pillar and block dining, card and breakfast tables  
do claw do do do do  
Plain do do do do do  
Centric or loo do do  
French and various other bureaux, with and without mirrors  
Ladies dressing tables, with and without mirrors  
Ditto workstands and music stools  
Ditto and gentlemen's cabinet, secretaries and book cases

Washstands, with marble and mahogany tops  
Richly carved and plain mahogany, bird eye, and curl maple and common beadsteads  
Cribs, cradles, candlestands, shaving do, portable desks and every other article in the cabinet line.

### LIKEWISE,

Mahogany of various kinds, steam sawed, curl and shaded veneers, copal varnish, sacking bottoms, cords, &c.

### BEDS, MATTRESSES, &c.

The above articles will be disposed of for cash or to punctual persons on the most liberal terms. A very extensive patronage from Washington induces me to say, that I will deliver furniture to any purchaser in that city free of expense. Turning & Carving executed in the best manner. may 20

### Cabinet, Chair, and Sofa Manufactory.

JAMES GREEN Cabinetmaker, —has on hand, and will constantly keep at his old stand on Royal-st., Alexandria, & at the corner of 10th st., Pennsylvania, Avenue Washington—a general assortment of the most fashionable and durable Furniture, which he will warrant equal, if not superior in quality, to any ever offered in the District.—Consisting in part, of—  
Grecian, winged and plain wardrobes  
Gothic, pedestal and plain sideboards  
Ditto, with cellaret and marble tops  
French and plain bureaux  
Dressing do with mirrors  
Ladies' and Gentlemen's secretaries book-case  
Pier tables with marble and mahogany tops  
Pillar and claw dining, breakfast and card tables  
Plain do do do do do  
Ladies workstand  
Shaving and candle do  
Washstand with marble and mahogany tops  
Grecian Sofa's  
Mahogany chairs  
Music tools, bidets, cribs, radles  
Portable writing desks &c  
With a general assortment of bedsteads of richly carved mahogany, maple and stained woods, all of which will be sold for cash as they can be purchased of the same quality at any other manufactory in the Union.

### TURNING AND CARVING.

Handsomely executed may 6

### Salt and Coal Alloat.

THE cargo of the ship Virginia, Stinson, master, from Liverpool, of  
14,000 bushels coarse } Liverpool Salt  
500 large sacks blown }  
700 bushels Orrel Coal }  
For sale by  
W. FOWLE & Co.

### Wholesale Hat Manufactory.

MORSE & JOSSELYN  
Have constantly on hand an extensive assortment of

### HATS

of all descriptions, calculated for any market, on the most reasonable terms. They have, and constantly keep on hand, a complete assortment of  
New York and Philadel.  
phia HATS.

Together with a general assortment of  
HATTERS' FURS,  
TRIMMINGS,  
DYE STUFFS, &c.

Orders in their line thankfully received, and put up at the shortest notice.

Purchased at fair prices.

Alexandria, June 3, 1831.

### Trustee's Notice.

THE creditors of John W. Barker, who wish to participate in the fund arising from the two deeds of trust executed to me by him, for purposes therein expressed, are hereby notified, that their claims must be presented, and the conditions of said deeds complied with, on or before the 15th September next, or they will be excluded from the benefit of said trusts. Notice is also given, that John W. Barker has placed in my hands a list of debts (now in the hands of an officer for collection,) which, when received, are to go in aid of the aforesaid trust fund, and to be appropriated accordingly.  
Jy 18 GEO. WHITE, Trustee.

### Cash for Negroes.

WE wish to purchase one hundred and fifty likely Negroes, of both sexes, from 12 to 25 years of age, field hands; also mechanics of every description. Persons wishing to sell would do well to give us a call, as we are determined to give a higher price for slaves than any purchasers who are or may hereafter be in this market, and no certificates required. Any communications promptly attended to. We can at all times be found at our residence west end Duke-street, Alexandria, D. C.  
June 2 FRANKLIN & ARMFIELD.